



**mission trips**  
your trip starts here.



---

## LODGING.

Oglala Sioux Parks & Recreation  
BIA Highway 28  
Wounded Knee, SD 57794

For directions to Parks and Recreation search “Oglala Sioux Parks and Recreation” on Google Maps. You must use Google Maps to find the correct location, as we have added this building to Google’s database of locations (not the case for Apple directions, MapQuest, etc.). You can also use coordinates: 43.17, -102.39 for the exact location if using something other than Google Maps.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Your mission trip will be hosted at the Parks and Recreation compound. Pine Ridge Parks and Recreation is just 20-25 minutes from the center of town and ranges anywhere from 5-45 minutes from projects.

There are four buildings on the property we stay at; two of those being buildings are where you will be sleeping and showering. We will be sleeping on the floor in separate rooms for guys and girls. There are 4 total rooms for girls, and 4 total rooms for guys, along with a common space in the center of these rooms, for additional sleeping areas as needed. There are also two additional large spaces to sleep in (not individual rooms), one large space for the girls, and one large space for the guys during weeks with more than 80 participants. Please bring a twin size air mattress

or cot, sleeping bag, and pillow. The sleeping areas are not air-conditioned. We recommend bringing 2-3 fans for different parts of your group.

There are eight bathrooms and individual shower stalls in the building you will be sleeping in. This means 4 showers, 4 toilets, and 4 sinks for the girls, and then 4 showers, 4 toilets, and 4 sinks for the guys. These are set up as 8 standard bathrooms, meaning the shower, toilet and sink is all in one enclosed bathroom. It’s important to be aware of this as it can slow down the shower process. We ask for flexibility during times of high bathroom usage (morning and evenings), as you may end up using bathrooms in another room to keep the process moving as quickly as possible. There are also two additional bathrooms for those sleeping in the space used during weeks with more than 80 participants.

We worship in a building on the same property we stay in. The worship space is not air conditioned, but fans are provided.

Warm clothes and bug spray is recommended for the evening.

# ELECTRONICS POLICY and DRESS CODE.

## ELECTRONICS

Next Step asks students not to use their electronics (cell phones, iPods, iPads, etc.) during the following times:

**Worksites:** please do not use your phone during the day while serving at the worksites. This is from 8-4PM every day.

**Evening Worship:** please do not use your phone during evening programming. This is approximately from 6-8PM every day. To learn more about dress code rules or electronics policies, please talk directly to your group leader (ie. youth pastor, parent leader, teacher, etc.).

## DRESS CODE

During the mission trip it is important that we make every effort to dress respectfully, modestly, and appropriately. We will be working hard serving in the community so it is best to wear old, comfortable, and modest clothes. Please understand there may be different cultural norms in the community you are visiting for one week. While certain clothing may be acceptable in your hometown, it might not be appropriate for the mission trip. Please review the dress code below and pack accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact our office at [missions@nextstepministries.com](mailto:missions@nextstepministries.com) or 608-514-4051.

Please adhere to the following rules:

*To learn more about dress code rules or electronics policies, please talk directly to your group leader (ie. youth pastor, parent leader, teacher, etc.)*

**Shirts:** All trip participants should wear either a short-sleeve or long-sleeve t-shirt on the work projects. Tank tops and sleeveless shirts are not allowed during the day while serving from approximately 8AM – 4PM. You may wear tank tops or sleeveless shirts in the evening during free time, dinner, and worship after 4PM. Please note, no spaghetti strap tank tops or ripped/torn cut-off shirts. All sleeveless shirts must have a hem.

**Pants/Shorts:** All trip participants should wear modest pants or shorts at all times on the mission trip.

**Shorts:** please be mindful of the length of your shorts. Follow the “fingertip length” rule to determine if your shorts are appropriate length. To do this, stand with your arms straight at your side and place your palm against the side of your legs. The length of your shorts should be at your fingertips or longer.

**Spandex pants/shorts are NOT allowed on the mission trip at anytime. This includes yoga pants or spandex athletic shorts.**

**Bathing Suits:** Ladies must wear a one-piece swim suit or wear a t-shirt over a two-piece swim suit. Males must wear swim trunks that are long enough for the “fingertip length” rule mentioned above.

## WHAT TO BRING.

This is a packing list for every leader and student. The items on this list are items that you do not want to go on your trip without!

- 
- SINGLE twin size air mattress**
  - Bedding** | sleeping bag or sheets and a blanket
  - Pillow**
  - Water bottle**
  - Sunglasses/Hat**
  - Sunscreen**
  - Insect repellent**
  - Snacks** | granola bars or trail mix
  - Shower towel**
  - Swim towel**
  - Swimming suit** | one-piece swimsuit or a t-shirt covering a two-piece is required for ladies
  - Toiletries** | soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.
  - Work shoes** | an old pair of tennis shoes will work well. It's great to wear work boots, but they are not required.
  - Work clothes** | old t-shirts, athletic shorts, cargo shorts, or jeans. Some people prefer to work in long pants. It's up to you and your personal preference of what you will be most comfortable in.
  - Casual clothes** | bring a clean set of clothes to change into after showers in the evening. Dress casually and comfortably!
  - Personal work gloves, safety glasses, hammer**
  - 2-3 fans per group (not individually)**

If you have any questions about this list or what to pack, please contact our office at [missions@nextstepministries.com](mailto:missions@nextstepministries.com)

# SCHEDULE

## what to expect.

### WAKE UP

Rise and shine at 7:00 am! You'll have plenty of time to roll out of bed and head to the main area for breakfast. The Next Step staff will have a second table area set up for making lunches. You will have time to prepare your own lunch for the day and throw it into a cooler. Once everyone has finished eating breakfast and preparing lunch we will focus our attention on God while reading through a morning devotional Next Step will provide.

### WORK PROJECTS

You'll head out in a team of 8-10 students to your work project at about 8:30 am. The Next Step construction team will lead you in the work. Around noon your team will enjoy lunch and a group devotional. Soon after, it's back to work until site clean up at around 4 pm.

### SHOWERS, FREE TIME, DINNER & CLEANUP

Once you arrive back at home base you'll have time to hang out with friends and enjoy some snacks while you take turns hitting the showers. Before you know it, dinner will be served by the Next Step staff at 6:00 pm. Throughout the week, each work crew will take turns helping to set up and to clean up after meals. You will have a chance to help clean in the kitchen, take out the trash, and even clean the bathrooms! Don't worry — this cleanup time won't take long.

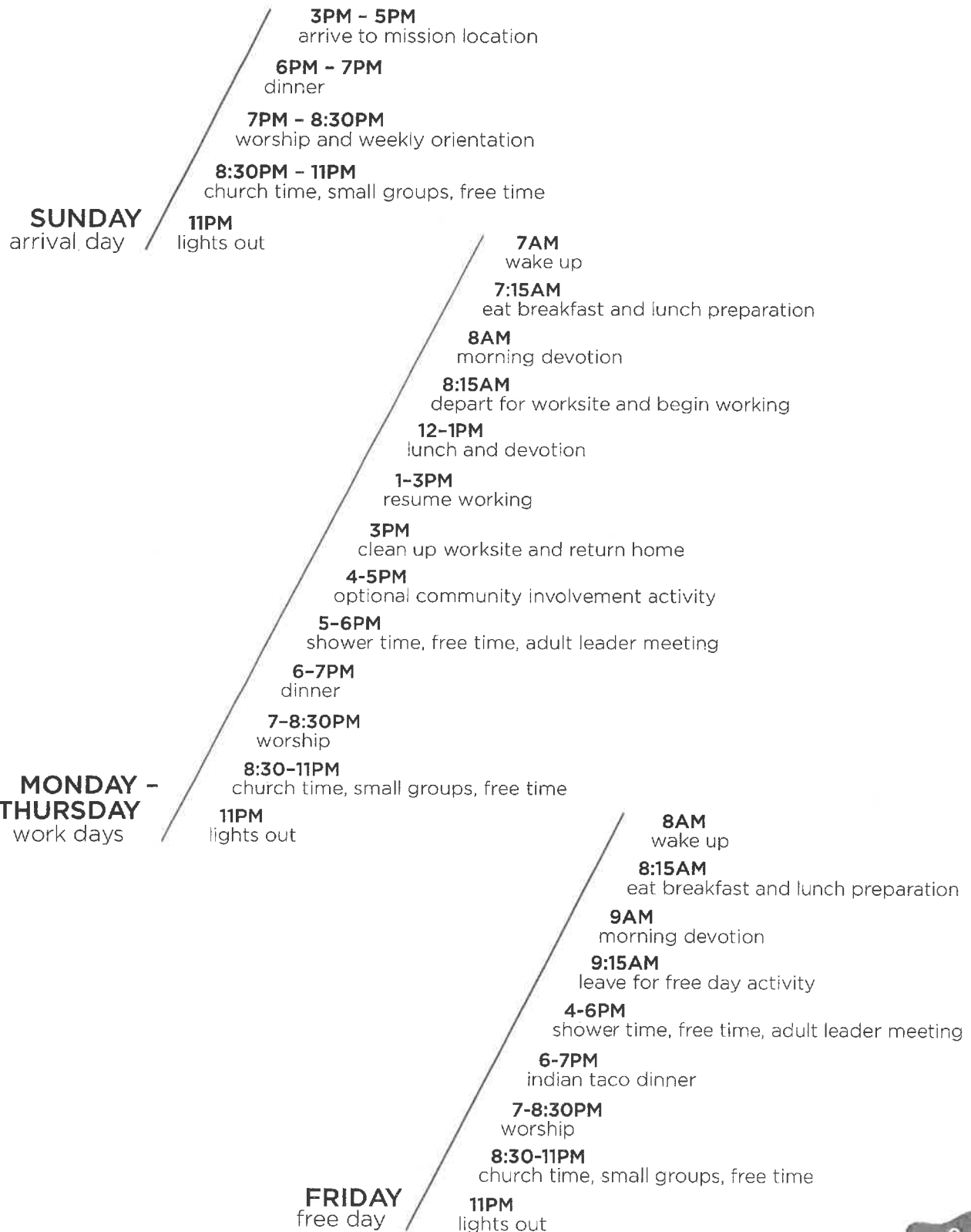
### WORSHIP

Get ready for an exciting evening with your Next Step band and worship team! We will take time to break into work crews each day to share how we saw God at work throughout the day. We will watch some videos, share some stories, and learn more about how to love and serve like Christ. Once evening programming wraps up, you will have time to meet with your youth group.

### FREE TIME & LIGHTS OUT

Bring some cards or games to play with friends. We'll have plenty of time for enjoying one another's company. Everyone will head to bed at 11:00 pm to make sure we have enough energy for the next day full of hard work!

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE.



## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO.

We strive to offer your group the best mission trip experience you have ever had! We are available day and night to answer your calls and questions. Please save the important numbers listed below to use in case of emergency or general questions. Again, please do not hesitate to reach out!

**Toll Free** 866-534-2009  
missions@nextstepministries.com

**Beth Crocker | [Office]** 608-514-4051  
beth.crocker@nextstepministries.com

**Nick Cocalis | [Director]** 608-213-2650  
nick.cocalis@nextstepministries.com

---

# MANDATORY PARTICIPATION.

## PARTICIPANT FORM

Every student and leader is required to complete the online participant form. There is a unique URL address associated with your group's mission trip. To access this unique URL, please talk to your trip leader or call the Next Step Ministries office.

**Youth leaders are required to print a copy of every form and bring them on the mission trip.**

## INSURANCE

Health insurance is required for every trip participant. Since insurance coverage is mandatory, any individual's without coverage are expected to purchase temporary health insurance. Next Step recommends the Volunteer Card, which is an inexpensive and fantastic program. Please learn more about temporary insurance available for individuals through their website [www.volunteercard.com](http://www.volunteercard.com).